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were invaded, excepting the northernmost Provinces. During the summer of 1911, however, the disease subsided very markedly, and from the 1st of April to September 13, the time during which the prevalence of the disease would be greatest, there were only 2,003 cases with 1,018 deaths reported.

Cholera appeared in Italy in August, 1910, in the Provinces of Bari and Foggia. The disease spread throughout the southern and eastern Provinces and invaded Sicily. It continued until the advent of cold weather, and subsided in January, 1911, to reappear in June of the same year. From June 8 to September 23, 1911, the period of the greatest prevalence of the disease, there were over 14,000 cases, and the infection had involved by far the greater part of the country. The disease finally subsided with the advent of the cold weather of winter. During the present year (1912) the disease had not recurred until August 14. The cases so far reported have all been in the southern part of the island of Sardinia, as noted in last week's issue of the Public Health Reports.

During the present summer cholera has appeared at numerous places in Asiatic Turkey. Among the places so reported are Aleppo, Alexandretta, Antioch, Beirut, Tarsus, and Damascus. Throughout southern Asia scattered cases have been reported. In Bombay there were between May 19 and July 27 over 1,600 cases reported with 1,200 deaths. Over 500 cases were reported between May 14 and July 29 in Saigon, in Indo-China. In Japan cases have occurred in Formosa and the Miyako Islands.

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### TRACHOMA.

Trachoma has been found by officers of the United States Public Health Service to be prevalent in certain localities in Kentucky and on Indian reservations in Minnesota. Trachoma is a disease affecting the eyes, is chronic in nature, and mutilating in its course and results, frequently producing partial or total blindness. The disease is common in parts of Asia and southern Europe, Immigrants suffering with this disease are not allowed to enter the United States. Recent reports indicate that trachoma is also present in Chile, where it appears to be spreading. Many cases have been noted in Valparaiso. The disease is most prevalent in localities where the hygienic conditions are bad and in those sections of cities where there is marked congestion and overcrowding. The disease has undoubtedly been imported into Chile by immigrants coming from localities where it is endemic.

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### INSANITY IN ENGLAND.<sup>1</sup>

The Sixty-sixth Annual Report of the Commissioners of Lunacy for England and Wales shows that on January 1, 1912, there were 135,661 certified insane persons under treatment in England and Wales, which was 2,504 more than on January 1, 1911. The increase in 1908 was 2,703; in 1909, 1,766; and in 1910, 2,604. The average

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<sup>1</sup> Memorandum forwarded by Consul General Griffith, London.